



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **KANAYA, Masatoshi et al.**

Serial No.: 10/069,954

Group Art Unit: 3643

Filed: July 1, 2002

Examiner: **David J. Parsley**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4537

For. **METHOD OF DETECTING AND REMOVING UNSTRIPPED RESIDUAL SHELL LEFT ON SHELLFISH, AND APPARATUS THEREFOR**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(d)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

Attn: Group Director

May 16, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

The undersigned hereby certifies

XX that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the

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first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: \$180.00 fee
 PTO-1449
 References (4)
 Copy of European Patent Office Communication